

City of Greenville Media Release

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CITY COUNCIL APPOINTS BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE TO ASSIST WITH STADIUM DEVELOPER SELECTION

Greenville SC . . . Mayor Knox White and Members of City Council announce the formation of a Blue Ribbon Committee that will assist with the selection of a developer for the municipal stadium project. Those agreeing to serve on the committee are George Fletcher, who will chair the committee, George Bell, Tom Traxler, Bill Page, Stephen Jones, Dan Avery, Bern Mebane, Debra Osbourne, Bob Parker, and Jonathan Pinson.

According to Mayor Knox White, Council decided to form the Blue Ribbon Committee to ensure that the City selects the most qualified developer for the stadium project. He explains, "There have been a number of development projects that have successfully involved citizen input in the selection process. Developing a quality stadium in Greenville is important and deserves the expertise and thorough examination that this committee can bring to the process."

The Blue Ribbon Committee has been charged with evaluating all proposals submitted to the City for the development of a new stadium or the expansion of the existing Braves stadium so that it meets AA standards and the needs of the Greenville Braves. The development will involve a public/private partnership for the construction and financing of the stadium. No property taxes will be used on the project.

Council Member Michelle Shain, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, agrees

that citizen involvement is an important component of the selection process. “This is such a significant project and it deserves an in-depth look. The caliber of the people who have agreed to serve on this committee is very high. City Council values their opinion and the process they will go through in making their recommendation.”

The City issued a request for proposals (RFP) on April 28 with a deadline for submission of June 18. Once the proposals are received, the panel members will evaluate each proposal before making a recommendation to Council. The following criteria was presented in the RFP:

- ▶ The developer’s previous experience and demonstrated history of developing a successful project of similar scope.
- ▶ The demonstrated capacity of the developer to finance, package, and manage this project.
- ▶ Financial considerations such as the financing structure and limit of public investment and the overall soundness of the financial plan.
- ▶ The developer’s readiness and ability to proceed on the project within the required schedule.
- ▶ The creativity of the proposal and its anticipated ability to generate significant community support.
- ▶ The ability of the proposed project to increase use of the existing facilities and to enhance revenue potential.

Copies of the RFP are available on the City website www.greatergreenville.com, and at City Hall, 7th Floor, 206 S. Main St.

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